



## WEEK FOUR – JUNE 2019 – SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *Right Here Waiting* • Luke 2:22–35

**Bottom Line:** *When you need to wait, ask God for patience.*

**Memory Verse:** *“The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself.” Galatians 5:22–23a, NIV*

**Life App:** *What God is doing in you to change the world around you*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what.*

**Summary:** In Luke 2:22–35 we read about Simeon. God promised Simeon that he would live to see the Messiah. While we’re not sure how long he waited, he must have been so excited when the Holy Spirit led him into the temple courtyard where Simeon saw Mary and Joseph with Jesus! God’s promises were true, and seeing Jesus was worth the wait!

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## EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

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### 1. Early Arriver Idea

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** Dum–Dums

**What You Do:**

- Ask: “Have you ever had to wait a looong time for something you really wanted? What was it? Was it hard to wait?”
- Let each child choose a candy.
- Tell kids that if they wait and don’t eat their candy now, they can choose two more pieces during Prayer!

### 2. Wait, Till You’re Older

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** Butcher paper; markers

**What You Do:**

- Ask kids to name some things they can do now that they couldn’t do when they were younger.
- As kids give answers, write them down on the butcher paper or poster board.

**What You Say:**

*Waiting! No matter your age, you will always have to wait for something. [Transition] In our Bible story today, we’ll hear about a man who waited a LONG time for something that had been promised to him. Let’s find out if he waited with patience or if he gave up.”*

*Lead your group to the Large Group area.*

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## LARGE GROUP

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**OVERVIEW:**

**Bottom Line:** *When you need to wait, ask God for patience. We all face moments where we’ll find it difficult to have patience. From waiting in line to get a seat at your favorite restaurant to sitting in construction traffic on your way to vacation, how can you have patience when you just want to get a*

*move on? We pray that kids will start with prayer and ask God for help. God can give us patience in any situation!*

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## SMALL GROUP

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### 1. Pass It On

#### [Bible Story Review]

*Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

#### What You Need: Bean Bag

#### What You Do:

- Guide the kids to circle up and sit on the floor.
- Play music on your smart phone or hum or sing a tune as the kids pass the beanbag around the circle.
- Stop the music (or singing/ humming) after the beanbag makes several passes around the circle. Make them wait for it!
- Read a question from the list below.
- Allow the kid holding the beanbag when the music stops to select a friend to answer.
- The kid selected may get help from friends if he needs it.
- Continue passing the beanbag and stopping the music at random until all questions have been asked and answered.
- Review Questions:
  - Today's Bible story is about a man named what? (Simeon)
  - What promise did God make to Simeon? (That he would see the Messiah before He died)
  - Did God give a specific date or time when he would meet the Messiah? (No! Simeon had to wait.)
  - Who came to the temple to have their baby dedicated? (Mary and Joseph)
  - Who was the baby? (Jesus, the Messiah)
  - God's Spirit prompted Simeon to go the temple courtyard. What happened? (Simeon held the baby, praised God, and said a prayer of dedication)
  - How did Mary and Joseph respond when Simeon prayed for Jesus? (They were amazed)
  - Why do you think Mary and Joseph responded this way? (They were surprised that Simeon recognized who Jesus really was, even though he was only eight days old)
  - How do you think Simeon felt after meeting Jesus that day? (Grateful, happy, excited that he was able to meet the SAVIOR)
  - Have you ever had to wait a long time for something? What happened?

### What You Say:

*“Waiting isn’t easy. Most of the time, we want what we want right now. I’m sure Simeon was anxious and wondered when or if God would fulfill His promise. But I think all that waiting and trusting actually caused Simeon’s faith to grow! And I’m thankful that he relied on God to help him in the waiting. God can help us, too. **[Bottom Line]** When you need to wait, ask God for patience.”*

***[Make it Personal]*** (Tell the kids about a time when you had to wait for something as a kid. Were you patient? Why or why not? Did you think to ask God to help you wait?)

## 2. One Word at a Time

### [Memory Verse Activity]

*Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

**What You Need:** Bibles

### What You Do:

- Circle up the kids to sit on the floor.
- Open Bibles to Galatians 5:22–23a and quickly review this month’s verse together.
- Challenge the kids to say the verse popcorn style: one word per kid at random around the circle.
  - They’ll need to watch each other. If two kids say the same word at the same time, they must start the verse over again.
  - This will require patience, as they’ll need to pay attention to the friends around them so they don’t double up on the same word.
- Repeat the complete verse in the same way two or three more times.
- If you choose, time the group to see if they can do this faster and faster!

### What You Say:

*“That was crazy! You really had to pay attention and be patient to make sure you didn’t say the same word at the same time. Patience is hard, but I’m so thankful to know that God doesn’t expect me to be patient on my own. He will ALWAYS help me so I can be loving and kind and joyful and gentle and faithful and peaceful and PATIENT! **[Bottom Line]** When you need to wait, ask God for patience.”*

## 3. Pray and Dismiss

### [Prayer Activity]

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** Candies from earlier

**What You Do:**

- Use the conversation below to lead kids into prayer.

**What You Say:**

*“Sometimes waiting can be hard! What are some things you can do to help you wait patiently? (Sing, dance, play a game, draw or color, talk with a friend, read, or look at a book.) More than anything else, WHO can help you be patient? Yes! God can. And when you believe in Jesus, you have God’s Holy Spirit to help you be patient.*

*“So, no matter what you’re waiting for, talk to God about it. He loves you, so tell Him how you feel. He can help you have peace, and He can help you be patient. Let’s pray.”*

*(Lead kids in prayer, asking God to help the kids be patient even when it’s hard. Thank Him for His love and for His Holy Spirit, Who helps us. Then allow kids who didn’t eat their candy to choose two more pieces. Praise them for their patience!)*

***As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell parents one thing they will do that can help them wait patiently. Remind each child that [Bottom Line] when you need to wait, ask God for patience. He loves you, and He’ll help!***